

CLAIMS

1. Amino-terminally truncated RANTES, lacking NH₂-terminal amino acids corresponding to amino acid residues 1, 1-2, 1-3 or 1-4 of the naturally-occurring RANTES and having chemokine antagonistic activity.
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2. Amino-terminally truncated RANTES according to claim 1, lacking NH₂-terminal amino acids corresponding to amino acid residues 1-2 of the naturally-occurring RANTES and having a chemokine antagonistic activity
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3. Amino-terminally truncated RANTES according to claim 1, having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.
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4. Amino-terminally truncated RANTES, according to one or more of the preceding claims, in a glycosylated form.
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5. DNA molecules comprising the DNA sequences coding for the amino-terminally truncated RANTES of the invention according to one or more of the preceding claims, including nucleotide sequences substantially the same.
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6. An expression vector which comprises the DNA molecule of any claim 5.
7. A host cell comprising the expression vector of claim 6.
8. A recombinant process for preparing any of the proteins from claim 1 to 4, comprising culturing in an appropriate culture medium the cells of claim 7.
9. A protein according to any of the claims from 1 to 4 for use as medicament.

10. Use of a protein according to any of the claims from 1 to 4, in the manufacture of a medicament for the therapy and/or diagnosis of diseases, in which an antagonistic activity of the chemokine effects is required.

5 11. Use according to claim 10, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of inflammatory diseases, HIV-infection, angiogenesis- and hematopoiesis-related diseases, and tumors.

10 12. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the protein according to any of the claims from 1 to 4 together with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and/or excipients.

13. Use of CD26/DPP IV in the therapy and/or diagnosis of the diseases, in which an antagonistic activity of the chemokine effects is required.

15 14. Use according to claim 13, for the treatment of inflammatory, immune and infectious diseases.